

CASE: 1276

PROVIDED A BROAD TIME FRAME (1965 TO 1969), THE CORRECT AIRCRAFT TYPE AND AN ACCURATE LOCATION WHICH CORRELATES TO REFNO 1276. (REF 4)

=== REPATRIATION ACTIONS OR STATUS CHANGES ===

30 October 1989

ON 21 JUNE 1989, THE SRV REPATRIATED THE ALLEGED REMAINS OF ALTON C. ROCKETT (REFNO 0717-02) IN BOX # 24. ON 19 OCTOBER 1989, THE ARMED FORCES IDENTIFICATION REVIEW BOARD APPROVED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE REMAINS AS COL SAMUEL C. MAXWELL (REFNO 1276-01). (REF 2)

21 November 1989

ON 31 JULY 1989, THE SRV REPATRIATED THE ALLEGED REMAINS OF SAMUEL C. MAXWELL (1276-01) IN BOX # 7. ON 17 NOVEMBER 1989 THE ARMED FORCES IDENTIFICATION REVIEW BOARD APPROVED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE REMAINS AS CAPT DANIEL L. CARRIER (0717-01). (REF 3)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

1 November 1993

ON 17 DEC 92, THE SRV PROVIDED A DOCUMENT TITLED, "REGISTER OF U.S. GRAVES IN QUANG BINH PROVINCE." LINE ENTRY #12 CORRELATES TO REFNO 1276-0-01 BASED ON PILOT'S NAME, DATE OF BIRTH, SERIAL NUMBER AND INCIDENT DATE. (REF 5)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING

BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 26 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1277-1-01 (ACCNO 0267) Status: (Z) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: SHARK, EARL ERIC Date Status assigned: 12 Sep 1968

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O #
Grade	E5	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	M16
Serial No	56706266	Height	65 in / 1.65 mtrs	Weapon No	932489
Birth date	23 May 1946	Weight	144 lb / 65.2 kg	Duty pos	SQD LDR
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

	INCIDENT LOCATION (0)	LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)
Site Type:	GROUND SITE	
UTM:	48PXU772145	48PXU834246
Lat/Long:	115314N / 1063738E	115842N / 1064105E
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	CAMBODIA
Military Region:	3	5
Mission Province:	SONG BE	KRATIE
(formerly):		
Mission District:	LOC NINH	
Mission Date:	12 Sep 1968	
Mission Category:	3	
Local Analysis:	None.	Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Sep 93, Aug 92, Jan 92, Mar 88
Investigations: Oct 92, Jan 93
Vessey Case: NO
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	GRND	Serial:	\$
Crash Type:	None	Engine Type:	
Call Sign:	\$	1 Serial:	
Year:	\$	2 Serial:	

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

= Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.
\$ = Item is not applicable to this case.
@ or Blank = Data for item is unknown or not available.

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=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

16 April 1976

ON 12 SEPTEMBER 1968 SGT EARL E. SHARK WAS THE POINT MAN ON A RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE MISSION IN SOUTH VIETNAM, WHEN THE POINT ELEMENT CAME UNDER ENEMY FIRE FROM A SUPERIOR ENEMY FORCE. ACCORDING TO A WITNESS SGT SHARK WAS WOUNDED IN HIS UPPER TORSO. HIS RADIO OPERATOR WAS HIT IN THE SAME BURST OF FIRE BUT FIVE TO TEN METERS BEHIND SGT SHARK. THE PLATOON LEADER AND HIS RADIO MAN WENT FORWARD AND TRIED TO RESCUE THE TWO MEN, BUT WERE UNABLE TO GET SGT SHARK OUT. THE UNIT WAS FORCED TO WITHDRAW AND WAS UNABLE TO RETURN TO THIS LOCATION UNTIL TWO DAYS LATER.

THEY FOUND NO TRACE OF SGT SHARK BUT DID FIND THE POSITION WHERE HE HAD BEEN SEEN AND FOUND HIS HELMET AND PART OF HIS CANTEEN. THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION FOR SGT SHARK IS GIVEN AS BEING IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) XU 772 145. (REF 1)

THERE ARE THREE REPORTS IN FILE THAT HAVE BEEN CORRELATED TO SGT SHARK AND DESCRIBE HIS CAPTURE AND SUBSEQUENT DEATH. THE REPORTS AGREE THAT HE DIED OF HIS WOUNDS AND COMPLICATIONS FOLLOWING THE AMPUTATION OF ONE OF HIS LEGS BY ENEMY MEDICAL PERSONNEL. THE GENERAL LOCATIONS OF THE HOSPITAL WHERE SGT SHARK ALLEGEDLY DIED WAS IN THE VICINITY OF (GC) XU 840 250. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN BURIED WEST OF THE HOSPITAL IN THE VICINITY OF (GC) XU 834 246. (REF 2, 3 & 5)

THE DRV/PRG LIST OF U.S. PERSONNEL WHO DIED IN CAPTIVITY STATES THAT SGT SHARK WAS CAPTURED ON 13 SEPTEMBER 1968 AND DIED IN SEPTEMBER 1968. (REF 4)

ADO MR III COMMENT--HOSTILE THREAT PRECLUDED VISIT TO OR GROUND INVESTIGATION OF THE CAPTURE POINT. THE PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVE DISCUSSED THE CASE WITH PROVINCE CHIEF AND THE TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION WAS GIVEN DETAILS OF THE CASE. SGT SHARK IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

25 May 1993

SOURCE DESCRIBED A 1967 BATTLE INVOLVING ELEMENTS OF THE 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION WHICH OCCURRED NEAR "HILL 24" (XU773147) IN SONG BE PROVINCE. SOURCE CLAIMED HIS UNIT CAPTURED ONE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED AMERICAN SOLDIER WHO SUBSEQUENTLY DIED AND WAS BURIED NEAR THE K-42 HOSPITAL JUST INSIDE CAMBODIA. ANALYSIS INDICATES A POSSIBLE CORRELATION TO REFNO 1277. (REF 9)

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=== REFERENCES ===

16 April 1976

REFERENCES: <1> RPT, HQ 1ST BN 28TH INF W/ATTACHMENTS, 8 OCT 68. <2> , DET 6 1021ST USAF FAS IR 516 0059 72, 4 FEB 72. <3> RPT, DET 6 7602D AINTELG IR 1 516 0349 72. 19 JAN 73. <4> RPT, DRV/PRG LIST OF US DIC, 23 JAN 73. <5> MSG, USDAO SGN IR 6 918 7450 74, 250136Z NOV 74. <6> 032243Z DEC 92, CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI. <7> DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION, CASE 1277 281041Z OCT 92. <8> DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION, CASE 1277, 220737Z FEB 93. <9> SRV ORAL HISTORY - TRUNG, CJTF-FA DET ONE, 281036Z APR 93. <10> CDR JTFFA/J2 230702Z SEP 93. <11> JTF-FA DET 2 FAX (831-93), 3 SEP 93.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

9 February 1985

A NEGOTIATION FOLDER ON EARL E. SHARK WAS PASSED TO THE SRV DURING THE 6-9 FEB 85 JCRC TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

2 December 1987

A CASE FILE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO EARL E. SHARK WAS MAILED TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT ON 18 MAR 87 BY THE EXEC DIR OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF FAMILIES. A CASE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO SAME WAS PASSED BY JCRC ON 4 AUG 87 TO THE SRV EMBASSY IN BANGKOK PURSUANT TO AGREEMENTS REACHED BETWEEN GENERAL VESSEY AND SRV FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH.

9 March 1992

DURING THE 12-15 JAN 92 VISIT TO HAWAII, THE FOLLOWING CASE NARRATIVES WERE PASSED TO THE CAMBODIAN TECHNICAL DELEGATION: 1277.

4 August 1992

CASE NARRATIVE 1277 WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF CAMBODIA FOLLOWING THE 3-4 AUGUST 1992 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING.

18 October 1993

CASE NARRATIVE FOR CASE 1277-1-01 WAS PASSED TO OFFICIALS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 29 SEP 93 COORDINATION MEETING.

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=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

4 August 1975

BURIAL SITE COORDINATES OF XT 839 178 FOR REFNO 1277-0-01 ENTERED
BASED ON IR 6-918-5270-73, USDAO SGN RVN, DTG 120740Z SEP 73.

BURIAL SITE CORRINATES OF XU 798 291 FOR REFNO 1277-0-01 ENTERED
BASED ON IR 6-918-7450-74 (PARA 158), USDAO SGN RVN, DTG 250136Z NOV 74.

6 August 1992

DIA AND JTF-FA AGREE ON THE INCIDENT LOCATION AND LAST KNOWN LOCATION;
HOWEVER, FOR OPERATIONAL PURPOSES, THE JTF-FA CARRIES EARL SHARK IN
CAMBODIA. BASED ON HISTORICAL PURPOSES, DIA CARRIES EARL SHARK IN SOUTH
VIETNAM.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

12 January 1993

ON 9 NOV 92, DURING THE 20TH JFA, ONE WITNESS PROVIDED FIRSTHAND
TESTIMONY CONCERNING THE AMBUSH OF AN AMERICAN PATROL AND SUBSEQUENT
CAPTURE OF ONE WOUNDED AMERICAN IN SEPTEMBER 68. THE WITNESS ALSO
PROVIDED LIMITED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE TRAVEL THROUGH THE JUNGLE TO
AN AID STATION IN SNOUL DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE, CAMBODIA. HE COULD NOT
PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FATE OF THE AMERICAN POW. FURTHER
INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE IS RECOMMENDED. (REF 6)

31 March 1993

ON 21 OCT 92, A JOINT U.S./CAMBODIAN INVESTIGATION/RECOVERY TEAM (IRT)
INVESTIGATED CASE 1277. THE TEAM ENTERED A FORMER CAMP SITE AT GRID
COORDINATE XU84112500. BASED ON LOCATION AND ARRAY OF FIGHTING POSITIONS,
IRT SURMISED THAT THE AREA HAD BEEN EITHER A VIET CONG OR A PAVN BASE
CAMP. THE CAMP HAD NOT BEEN SANITIZED. FIGHTING POSITIONS WERE IN DECENT
REPAIR, SOME STILL HAVING ROOF SUPPORTS IN POSITION. IRT FOUND NUMEROUS
ARTICLES OF INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT SUCH AS PONCHOS LYING ABOUT THE AREA.
ADDITIONALLY, FOOD CONTAINERS, GLASS BOTTLES, COMMUNICATIONS WIRE, ETC.
WERE STREWN THROUGHOUT THE AREA. BASED ON VIET CONG DOCTRINE OF
SANITIZING ALL CAMP AREAS PRIOR TO DEPARTING, IRT CONCLUDED THAT THE
POTENTIAL FOR UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE IN THE AREA WAS UNCOMMONLY HIGH. AFTER
CONSULTING EOD TECHNICIANS AND SECURITY PERSONNEL, IRT COMMANDER ABORTED
THE MISSION AND RETURNED TO THE LANDING ZONE. BELIEVE IRT LOCATED VC CAMP
ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 1277; HOWEVER, POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION CANNOT BE MADE
WITHOUT A THOROUGH SEARCH OF THE AREA. INFORMATION IN THE CASE FILE
INDICATES A VC MEDICAL CAMP HAD EXISTED AT THAT LOCATION. IRT IDENTIFIED
ENOUGH PHYSICAL EVIDENCE INCLUDING FIGHTING POSITIONS AND DISCARDED

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GARMENTS TO SUBSTANTIATE EXISTENCE OF A VIET CONG CAMP. RECOMMEND
REINVESTIGATION OF THE CAMP ON A FUTURE JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY. (REF 7)

5 April 1993

ON 6 FEBRUARY 1993, A JOINT U.S./CAMBODIAN INVESTIGATION/RECOVERY TEAM
(IRT) INVESTIGATED THE POSSIBLE LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF THIS CASE. AN
ALLEGED FIELD HOSPITAL LOCATED AT GRID COORDINATE XU833246. DURING A
SEARCH OF THE DENSELY FORESTED AREA, THE TEAM FOUND DEFENSIVE POSITIONS IN
A HORSESHOE SHAPE AROUND HILL 108, WHICH SUGGESTED THEY WERE DEFENDING THE
HOSPITAL LOCATION. A SEARCH OF THE AREA REVEALED NO EVIDENCE OF A GRAVE
SITE. THE AREA IS UNINHABITED, SO NO INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED.
RECOMMEND NO FURTHER FIELD ACTIVITY UNLESS NEW INFORMATION OR WITNESSES
BECOME AVAILABLE. (REF 8)

=== ARCHIVAL RESEARCH INFORMATION ===

28 September 1993

SRV DOCUMENT PROVIDED IN APR 93, TITLED "LIST OF AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT
DIED IN THE SOUTH AFTER THEIR CAPTURE," CORRELATES TO REFNO 1277-1-01.
LINE ENTRY #23 CORRELATES BASED ON THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME. (REF 10)

15 October 1993

ON 1 SEP 93, THE VIETNAMESE TURNED OVER BRIEF CASE ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH OF
THE 27 DIED IN CAPTIVITY CASES. THE ASSESSMENTS WERE IN RESPONSE TO A
U.S. PRESENTATION OF THE D.I.C. LIST AS A GUIDE FOR SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM
INVESTIGATION. ONE OF THESE CASES WAS REFNO 1277, WHICH THE VIETNAMESE
RECOMMENDED FOR FURTHER JOINT U.S.-CAMBODIAN INVESTIGATION. (REF 11)